

LEE COUNTY INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION CENTER

The Lee County Industrial Education Center (IEC) is located near Central High School. Opened in 1962, the Lee County IEC is one of a growing number of these institutions in North Carolina. The basic idea of the IEC's is to provide job training tailored to current job markets. It also provides job-oriented classes for employed persons. Nominal fees are charged for IEC services.

The IEC's standards of personnel, curricula, admissions, and graduation; degree, diploma and certificate policies; and tuitions and fees are controlled by the State Board of Education.

A local Board of Trustees of eight members, four chosen by the Board of County Commissioners and four by the two local Boards of Education, selects the IEC director (with the approval of the State Board) and otherwise is generally responsible for the acquisition of IEC land and buildings and supervising the maintenance of IEC property.

Financial support for the IEC comes from County, State, and Federal funds. State funds and Federal funds provide the salaries and expenses of administrators and instructors and purchase furniture, equipment and library books. County funds are largely allocated to the purchase of land, buildings, and vehicles and the operation and maintenance of these items.

The IEC has a staff of 14 full-time instructors, 15 part-time instructors, and seven administrative and auxiliary personnel. Present enrollment (1963-1964) is about 72 full-time and 234 part-time students and is increasing.

IEC buildings and grounds consist of a 28,000 square foot building on a 28 acre site. Paved parking space for 50 cars is provided.

Facility needs are largely determined by enrollment and type of program. Both factors are expected to require expanding building requirements in the foreseeable future. According to the IEC's Director, 7,800 square feet of additional floor space are already needed, as well as up to 50 new parking places. Enrollment has increased steadily since the Center opened in September of 1962, and is expected to continue increasing. The addition of advanced courses in certain areas, qualifying the IEC as a Technical Institute, is considered a possibility for the near future by the Director. This, he expects, would cause a jump in the rate of enrollment increase, and of course place more pressure on facilities. The land presently allotted to the IEC should be ample for all anticipated expansion.